

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3-6, 18, 19, 29, 30, 40, 45, and 50 without prejudice or disclaimer. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving at an Identity System a request for a first certificate related action for a first user wherein the first certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action; and
retrieving by the Identity System a first workflow for responding to said request from a ~~set of workflows, wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for responding to said requests for certificate related action actions,~~ wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a different set of characteristics for a user, wherein the first workflow contains a first set of directives and a second workflow in said plurality of workflows contains a second set of directives, wherein said first set of directives is different from said second set of directives, wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said second workflow does not call for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said first workflow for responding to said request corresponds to said first certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said first user from an identity profile for the first user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics for the first user including a user type for the first user, and wherein retrieving the first workflow further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the ~~requested~~ first certificate related action and the user type of the first user.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, further comprising:
receiving said plurality of workflows.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow
comprises:

retrieving an approval response; and
obtaining a certificate.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user
wherein the second certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate
enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action;

retrieving ~~[[a]]~~ the second workflow for responding to said second request from
said ~~set~~ plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second
certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said second user from an identity profile
for the second user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics including a user
type for the second user, and wherein retrieving the second workflow further comprises selecting
the second workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the second certificate related
action and the user type of the second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow
comprises:

obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and said second certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate renewal action and said second certificate related action is a certificate renewal action.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate, wherein obtaining the certificate comprises
 authenticating said first user;
 forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server;
 receiving said certificate; and
 storing said certificate.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate renewal action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate renewal, wherein obtaining the certificate renewal comprises:

 authenticating said first user;
 forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server;
 receiving a certificate renewal acknowledgement.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate revocation action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

 revoking a certificate, wherein revoking the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user; and
forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising:

receiving at an Identity System a request for a first certificate related action for a first user wherein the first certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action; and
retrieving by the Identity System a first workflow for responding to said request from a ~~set of workflows, wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for responding to said requests for certificate related action actions,~~ wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a different set of characteristics for a user, wherein the first workflow contains a first set of directives and a second workflow in said plurality of workflows contains a second set of directives, wherein said first set of directives is different from said second set of directives, wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said second workflow does not call for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said first workflow for responding to said request corresponds to said first certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said first user from an identity profile for the first user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics for the first user including a user type for the first user, and wherein retrieving the first workflow further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the ~~requested~~ first certificate related action and the user type of the first user.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:
receiving said plurality of workflows.

21. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:
performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

retrieving an approval response; and
obtaining a certificate;

receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user wherein the second certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action;

retrieving ~~[[a]]~~ the second workflow for responding to said second request from said ~~set~~ plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said second user from an identity profile for the second user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics including a user type for the second user, and wherein retrieving the second workflow further comprises selecting the second workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the second certificate related action and the user type of the second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow comprises:

obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

22. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 21, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and said second certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action.

23. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate, wherein obtaining the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user;

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server;

receiving said certificate; and

storing said certificate.

24. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate renewal action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate, wherein obtaining the certificate comprises

authenticating said first user;

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server; and

receiving a certificate renewal acknowledgement.

25. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 16, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate revocation action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

revoking a certificate, wherein revoking the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user; and

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

one or more communications interfaces;

one or more storage devices; and

one or more processors in communication with said one or more storage devices and said one or more communication interfaces, said one or more processors perform a method comprising:

receiving at an Identity System a request for a first certificate related action for a first user wherein the first certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action; and

retrieving by the Identity System a first workflow for responding to said request from a ~~set of workflows, wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for responding to said requests for certificate related action actions,~~ wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a different set of characteristics for a user, wherein the first workflow contains a first set of directives and a second workflow in said plurality of workflows contains a second set of directives, wherein said first set of directives is different from said second set of directives, wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said second workflow does not call for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, wherein said first workflow for responding to said request corresponds to said first certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said first user from an identity profile for the first user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics for the first user including a user type for the first user, and wherein retrieving the first workflow further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the ~~requested~~ first certificate related action and the user type of the first user.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~29~~ 27, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving said plurality of workflows.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

retrieving an approval response; and

obtaining a certificate;

receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user wherein the second certificate related action is selected from a group consisting of a certificate enrollment action, a certificate renewal action, and a certificate revocation action;

retrieving ~~[[a]]~~ the second workflow for responding to said second request from said ~~set~~ plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said second user from an identity profile for the second user maintained by the Identity System, the set of characteristics including a user type for the second user, and wherein retrieving the second workflow further comprises selecting the second workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the second certificate related action and the user type of the second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow comprises:

obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and said second certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate enrollment action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate, wherein obtaining the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user;

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server;

receiving said certificate; and

storing said certificate.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate renewal action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

obtaining a certificate, wherein obtaining the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user;

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server; and

receiving a certificate renewal acknowledgement.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein said method further comprises:

performing said first workflow, wherein said first certificate related action is a certificate revocation action and wherein performing said first workflow comprises:

revoking a certificate, wherein revoking the certificate comprises:

authenticating said first user; and

forwarding said request to a Certificate Processing Server.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a first request for a first certificate related action for a first user; ~~and~~
retrieving a first workflow for responding to said first request from a ~~set~~ plurality
of workflows,

wherein said first workflow corresponds to said first certificate related
action and a set of characteristics for said first user,

~~wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for
responding to said certificate related action,~~

wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a
different set of characteristics for a user,

wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before
performing a certificate related action,

wherein a second workflow of the plurality of workflows does not call for
obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, and

wherein retrieving the first workflow for responding to said first request
further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the
~~requested~~ first certificate related action and a user type of the first user;

performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow comprises
retrieving an approval response and obtaining a certificate;

receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user;

retrieving a second workflow for responding to said second request from said
plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second certificate
related action and a user type of said second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow
comprises obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving said plurality of workflows.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~40~~ 38, wherein said first certificate related action and said second certificate related action call for the same certificate related action.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~40~~ 38, wherein receiving the request, retrieving the workflow, performing the workflow, receiving the second request, retrieving the second workflow, and performing the second workflow are performed by an Identity System in communication with an Access System.

43. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising:

receiving a first request for a first certificate related action for a first user; ~~and~~
retrieving a first workflow for responding to said first request from a ~~set~~ plurality of workflows,

wherein said first workflow corresponds to said first certificate related action and a set of characteristics for said first user,

~~wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for responding to said certificate related action,~~

wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a different set of characteristics for a user,

wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action.

wherein a second workflow of the plurality of workflows does not call for obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, and

wherein retrieving the first workflow for responding to said first request further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the ~~requested~~ first certificate related action and a user type of the first user;

performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow comprises retrieving an approval response and obtaining a certificate;

receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user;

retrieving a second workflow for responding to said second request from said plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second certificate related action and a user type of said second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow comprises obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

44. (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 43, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving said plurality of workflows.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim ~~45~~ 43, wherein said first certificate related action and said second certificate related action call for the same certificate related action.

47. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim ~~45~~ 43, wherein receiving the request, retrieving the workflow, performing the workflow, receiving the second request, retrieving the second workflow, and performing the second workflow are performed by an Identity System in communication with an Access System.

48. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
one or more communications interfaces;
one or more storage devices; and
one or more processors in communication with said one or more storage devices
and said one or more communication interfaces, said one or more processors perform a method
comprising:

receiving a first request for a first certificate related action for a first user; ~~and~~
retrieving a first workflow for responding to said first request from a ~~set~~ plurality
of workflows,

wherein said first workflow corresponds to said first certificate related
action and a set of characteristics for said first user,

~~wherein said set of workflows includes a plurality of workflows for
responding to said certificate related action,~~

wherein each workflow in said plurality of workflows corresponds to a
different set of characteristics for a user,

wherein said first workflow calls for obtaining an approval before
performing a certificate related action,

wherein a second workflow of the plurality of workflows does not call for
obtaining an approval before performing a certificate related action, and

wherein retrieving the first workflow for responding to said first request
further comprises selecting the first workflow from the plurality of workflows based on the
~~requested~~ first certificate related action and a user type of the first user;

performing said first workflow, wherein performing said first workflow comprises
retrieving an approval response and obtaining a certificate;

receiving a second request for a second certificate related action for a second user;

retrieving a second workflow for responding to said second request from said
plurality of workflows, wherein said second workflow corresponds to said second certificate
related action and a user type of said second user; and

performing said second workflow, wherein performing said second workflow comprises obtaining a second certificate without retrieving an approval response.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein said method further comprises:

receiving said plurality of workflows.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~50~~ 48, wherein said first certificate related action and said second certificate related action call for the same certificate related action.

52. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~50~~ 48, wherein receiving the request, retrieving the workflow, performing the workflow, receiving the second request, retrieving the second workflow, and performing the second workflow are performed by an Identity System in communication with an Access System.

Please add the following new claims:

53. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein obtaining an approval response comprises applying a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) filter to attributes of the identity profile for the first user.